WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Breaking of Indian Flag Vessels under open General Licence

@*205. SHRI M. S. GURUPADASWAMY:

DR. BAPU KALDATE:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have decided to bring the breaking of Indian Flag Vessels under Open General Licence;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) in what manner the proposal is likely to help the shipping industry?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI NARAYAN DATT TIWARI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The import of Indian Flag Vessels for breaking can be made under Open General Licence by the units registered for ship breaking subject to the condition that they shall produce to the Custom authorities at the time of clearance a certificate from D. G. Shipping, Bombay, authorising the scrapping of the vessel.

(c) The above decision has streamlined the procedure for quick scrapping of old vessels to enable the shipping industry to make fresh investments on modernisation of existing fleet thereby making it more competitive.

Pension to Freedom Fighters

*206. SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR SAHU: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of applications received from freedom fighters who participated in the agitation against the feudal rule of the Nizam of Hyderabad;

(b) the number of applications for pension cleared so far;

(c) what is the number of applications which are still pending clearance and what are the reasons therefor; and

(d) the target date for the final disposal of all such pension claims?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI BUTA SINGH): (a) to (d) There are 3 categories of freedom fighters who participated in the agitation against the feudal rule of Nizam of Hyderabad, namely:

(i) the general category of freedom fighters who had participated while staying within the erstwhile Hyderabad State;

(ii) those who participated in the merger movement and suffered abscondence or internment/externment but were unable to produce evidence and those who participated in the Camps set up on the borders of the erstwhile Hyderbad State during the merger movement; and

(iii) those who had participated in the Arya Samaj Movement of 1938-39.

As regards category (i), it is not possible to give the figures of number of applications received and sanctioned in respect of erstwhile Hyderabad State because districtwise figures are not maintained and parts of the erstwhile Nizam State of Hyderabad have since been merged into the State of Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka and Maharastra as a result of Reorganisation of States.

As for category (ii), about 19000 applications were received and the Non-Official Hyderabad Special Screening Committee set up for scrutinising such claims have recommended grant of pension in about 6550 cases

@Previously Starred Question 145 transferred from the 5th August, 1987.

while rejecting the remaining cases. Pension has since been sanctioned in about 4650 cases and the remaining cases recommended by the Committee recently are being processed.

As regards category (iii), 1265 applications were received in time, out of which 246 applications have been rejected, while pension has been sanctioned in 12 cases. The remaining cases are being processed in consultation with the State Governments concerned and the Non-Official Committee set up for the purpose,

Every effort is being made to finalise the pending cases expeditiously.

Apartheid Policy of South Africa

*207. SHRI MURLIDHAR CHANDRA KANT BHANDARE:

SHRI MAHENDRA PRASAD:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) what steps have been taken by Government during the past six months to dissuade the U.K., U.S.A. and other countries from continuing their economic and trade relations with South Africa, with a view to pressurising the latter into giving up the policy of Apartheid;

(b) what has been the response of those countries thereto; and

(c) what other steps are being taken by Government to see that South African white minority Government gives up its Apartheid Policy?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) to (c) Government have been consistently advocating and representing directly to all Governments maintaining trade and economic relations with South Africa the need to enforce comprehensive mandotory sanctions against that country as the only effective means to secure the dismentlement of the abhorrent system of apartheid. While there has been no encouraging response from the Governments concerned during the last six months Government continue with their efforts including under the aegis of the AFRICA Fund to mobilise public opinion in these countries and elsewhere in support of the global campaign against apartheid.

Social Forestry in M.P.

*208. SHRI SURENDRA SINGH THAKUR: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) what are the details of progress made in regard to social forestry in Madhya Pradesh;

(b) whether the Central Government have provided any financial assistance to Madhya Pradesh Government to achieve the objectives of social forestry in that state; and

(c) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI BHAJAN LAL): (a) Achievement in Social Forestry in M.P. in the recent past is as follows:

Period/Year	Physical Achievement (Approx.Ha.)
VI Plan (1980—85)	421651
1985-86	125778
1986-87	146010